

**Draft Minutes of the Joint Ansford Parish & Castle Cary Town Annual Town Meeting
Held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in Caryford Hall**

Present: **Chair of Parish Council: Chris Edwards**
 Parish Councillors: Di Pinnions, Nigel Begg, Justin Birch, Barbara Williams
 Chair of Town Council: Judi Morison
 Town Councillors: Penny Steiner, Justin Birch, Hedge Burley, Pek Peppin Nick Crowley, Rob Worth
 District Councillors: None
 County Councillors: Mike Lewis
 Clerks and Bookings& Promotions Manager: Zoe Godden
 Claire Craner-Buckley, Holly Callow

Approx 60 members of the community

21 local clubs societies & organisations & their representatives Approx 40 people

1	<p>Welcome and Introduction of Councillors</p> <p>TQ to Ansford Academy Students for providing the tea & coffees.</p> <p>CE introduced APC Councillors</p> <p>JM introduced CCTC Councillors & County Councillor</p>
2	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Henry Hobhouse District Councillor Kevin Messenger District Councillor Emma Reeves (PCSO) Nick Weeks Town Councillor</p>
3	<p>Approval of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting Minutes-Ansford</p> <p>2018 Minutes accepted and to be signed off.</p>
4	<p>Approval of the 2018 Annual Town Meeting Minutes-Castle Cary</p> <p>HB proposed RW seconded. 2018 Minutes accepted and to be signed off.</p>
5	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>None</p>

6	<p>Chair's Report- Ansford</p> <p>CE gave a report – attached</p>
7	<p>Chair's Report- Castle Cary</p> <p>JM gave a report - attached</p>
8	<p>Presentation by Mike Lewis Somerset County Councillor</p> <p>ML was once again in fine voice, giving a delightful rendition of 2 rain related songs for local farmers & gardeners. He then promised to make a donation to the Caryford Hall renovation fund if there was no rain by Friday.</p> <p>He thanked everyone on both Councils for their hard work. He noted that the successful transfer of the Market House from SSDC to CCTC had taken place on 1.4.19. Also that the Fairfield was a good joint move. He also noted that the Community Library was being supported successfully by many in the community.</p> <p>ML told the meeting that he was saddened by the loss of Nick Weeks as a South Somerset District Councillor & thanked him for all his hard work during his time in this role, including his work on improving the water quality in Cary Brook by securing a £1m agreement with Viridor. Also the May Day boat regatta plus much more.</p>
9	<p>Presentations by Parish & Town Councillors</p>
<p>9.1</p> <p>Castle Cary</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>PP updated the meeting, reminding everyone that the NH Plan process started in 2014 with a group of 6 volunteers. Since then many milestones have been passed. The Draft Plan is now available & the Examiner has just passed it with minor changes. So now SSDC need to approve this & then it comes to local referendum.</p> <p>The Plan needs to be in place as soon as possible so that any more green field housing applications can be paused to fully assess their impact on the local infrastructure & community. Also once in place the community grants from developers are at the maximum level of 25%.</p> <p>PP gave an update on the Foxes Run/Yarlington Appeal. There are factual errors in inspectors report. CCTC is looking at the 1st phase challenge presently which costs £3000.</p>
9.2	<p>Marketing & Communications</p> <p>PS gave a report - attached</p>

9.3	<p>Fairfield</p> <p>CE gave a report - attached</p>
9.4	<p>Eat Festival</p> <p>The organisers thanked everyone & reported that 6000 people came to the event on 4 May 2019. People attending said that they found Castle Cary to be a friendly, pretty town. There were new people visiting for the first time and the report from businesses was that it helped trade. The community event aimed to encourage people to visit the town with good local food & drink on offer. A Survey on social media was very positive. Residents in the Town Centre have been sent a feedback questionnaire. All responses are welcomed. The potential date for next year is May 2nd 2020. This will be firmed up once all feedback has been assessed.</p>
9.5	<p>Friends of Castle Cary Library (FoCCL)</p> <p>Les Kimberly the new volunteer Library Manager updated the meeting. The library would have closed in Dec 2018 however the charity formed in Oct 2018 making a bid to Somerset County Council to run in conjunction with it. The charity made bids to CCTC & other organisations. It now has 100 'friends'. Training has taken place. There are 31 desk helpers & others do website, cleaning etc. 4 libraries in Somerset are run by volunteers. SCC have given good feedback on how it is going so far. Everyone is welcome, the library is run by the community for the community. It is not just books or the building. SCC are giving a grant of £5000 a year for 7 years due to expected housing growth & socio eco factors in the town. This is a sustainable activity: the reuse of books; less travel is needed with the local facility retained. Books can be ordered from a very wide geographical area & collected from here. The library is helping the community's wellbeing offering events & activities locally.</p>
9.6	<p>Dr Scull Health Centre Millbrook & 2 other local surgeries</p> <p>Dr Scull told the meeting that there are 'hub coaches' who liaise with the public, GPs & hospitals. There is a good GP access system where patients can speak to a GP/other practitioner on the day they phone. This will help with the expanding number of residents in the town. Looking after ourselves/prevention is key. We can work together to maximise the community's health.</p>
9.7	<p>David Osborne: summarised the feedback from the 'Sustainability' table-</p> <p>ideas & information gathered from everyone before the meeting: Travel eg electric community courier bike. Recycling. Local food. Reduce energy/renewable energy. Education. Outlook: influence others. Legacy. Seeing the world as a Gift. Statutory bodies eg SCC Sustainability policies. Town Council to declare a climate emergency. Work together. Greener Cary.</p>
10	<p>Presentations from Ward Councillors</p> <p>None in attendance</p>

11	Questions and other matters for discussion
11.1	Question re: day of next Eat Festival in 2020. The retailer thinks it would be preferable if the event is not held on a Saturday. Much discussion in town re the event. Organiser replied that businesses need to be open to showcase the town when the event is on & many are not open on a Sunday so a Saturday is good. She advised that the event is held on a Sat in all the other towns where they have run Festivals for last 7 years. The organisers will be attending the Chamber of Commerce event on 11 June so can discuss this further with local retailers.
11.2	Question: The Pavilion Project was on the agenda but not discussed as an individual item: JM advised that whilst she had referred to it in her report, she could further explain that a topographical survey had taken place last week that would provide feedback for the architects. Then designs would follow next. Funding will come from the developers of the new housing. The member of the public said that the Football Club & Cricket Club were not aware what was happening. JM advised that representatives from both clubs have given CCTC their requirements & helped appoint the architect. She also advised that it was the Donald Pither Memorial Trust that runs the DP field.
11.3	David Osborne stood up to give a vote of thanks to the two council chairs: JM & CE. Applause followed.
11.4	JM thanked everyone for coming.